



## Board of Commissioners Meeting

July 24, 2024

Commissioner Hutcheson opened a regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:30pm. This meeting was also available to the public via Zoom. The following attended:

Commissioner Cameron  
Commissioner Headley  
Chief Goldstein  
DC Stich

Commissioner Olson  
Commissioner Hallanger  
DC Huff  
Finance Director Ballinger

### Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve the June 26, 2024 board meeting minutes with edits. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

### Public Comments:

Arrick Crayne read a letter on behalf of IAFF Local 3828 recognizing Chief Goldstein's one-year anniversary and expressed their support of his leadership and commitment. Commissioner Hutcheson thanked Chief Goldstein for all he has done for the organization so far and for their weekly meetings to stay up-to-date on District issues.

### Awards & Recognition:

None

### Verbal Reports:

**911 Update:** Meet and Greet for the Executive Director candidates is scheduled for Thursday, July 25 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at Cowlitz 911. All are welcome. Interviews for the Executive Director candidates will be occurring the following day. Commissioner Headley gave an update on the radio/microwave project.

### Written Reports:

**WSRB Rating (Staff Report 7-2-002):** The WA State Survey & Rating Bureau (WSRB) has identified concerns with Station 24 not meeting minimum staffing criteria in their letter to the District. This will affect the fire protection class rating for several residents in that area. Several maps were reviewed to show the impacts. The District must respond to the letter by August 1. WSRB will defer the fire protection class rating change for one year if we present a plan to focus

on improving staffing at that station (with career or volunteers).

Discussion regarding whether to invest in the current location for Station 24 vs looking for new property. The Board would like staff to focus on building improvements to the current station and to pursue purchasing a mobile home. The Board also directed staff to work on a plan to improve participation at Station 24 during the next year and come back with an outline of this plan for the Board to review. In addition, the OAP will need to be updated to reflect this project and make it a high priority.

## **Action Items:**

**Surplus Misc Items (Staff Report 7-2-001):** Staff has identified several items as listed in staff report 7-2-001 that are no longer needed and are ready for surplus.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve the surplus of misc equipment as outlined in Staff Report 7-2-001. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**REVISED Resolution 860-2024: MRSC Rosters:** After this resolution was passed at the last meeting, the state changed the RCW number related to public works laws that was cited in the original resolution. This revised resolution has the new RCW referenced.

*Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve Resolution 860-2024: MRSC Rosters as presented. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**Resolution 861-2024: District Secretary:** Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve Resolution 861-2024: District Secretary as presented. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

**Accept DOE Hazmat Grant:** The District was notified that we were awarded a Hazmat Grant from the Dept of Ecology (DOE) for \$94,000 in Hazmat-related equipment with no match.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to accept the DOE Hazmat Grant. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**POG 1001: Rules of the District/Code of Conduct:** A portion of POG 2074 was summarized and added to this POG as well as a few other minor edits. Discussion regarding terminology, conduct potentially not addressed, etc.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve POG 1001: Rules of the District/Code of Conduct with edits. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

*Commissioner Cameron amended his motion (after discussion from POG 2074 below) to include additional edits. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**POG 2073: Nepotism:** Edits were presented for this POG. After some discussion, additional edits were made by the Board to clarify intent.

*Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve POG 2073: Nepotism with edits. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**VOID POG 2074: Public Displays of Affection:** Since portions of this POG were incorporated into POG 1001 (approved earlier in this meeting), Chief Goldstein is requesting to void this POG. Further edits were requested in POG 1001 by the Board after a discussion regarding behaviors that are currently not addressed in it.

*Commissioner Headley made a motion to VOID POG 2074: Public Displays of Affection. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**POG 2011: Leave of Absence:** Edits were presented for this POG. After some discussion, additional edits were made by the Board.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve POG 2011: Leave of Absence with edits. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Chief's Report:**

- One new part-time and full-time employee will be starting in about a week. One new full-time employee will start in September and we have one other full-time candidate in the final stages of the pre-employment process.
- We have four people out on mobes at this time.
- Two vehicles recently broke down, but now both are back up and running.
- Status update on the Nippon annexation notice we recently received. This will be officially presented at the next Board meeting.
- Overview of information staff has found related to insurance coverage and what other carriers offer compared to our current policy. After some discussion, it was decided that staff does not need to pursue this any further at this time and we will continue with our current carrier and policy.

## **Payroll:**

*Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve payroll totaling \$324,336.67 for warrant numbers 65709-65719 and EFTs dated July 5, 2024; \$347,570.83 for warrant numbers 65760-65769 and EFTs dated July 19, 2024. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Vouchers:**

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve vouchers totaling \$52,501.85 for warrant numbers 65720-65759 dated July 11, 2024; \$121,952.47 for warrant numbers 65770-65817 dated July 25, 2024. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Drill Points:**

*Commissioner Headley made a motion to approve drill points totaling \$17,408.07 for warrant numbers 65818-65822 and EFTs dated July 31, 2024. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**Announcements:**

None

**Adjournment:**

*Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hutcheson at 6:17pm.*

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Commissioner

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District Secretary